



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



March 2003

Location	Date	Time	Path	Path	Number of		Estimated		Character of Storm
		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

CONNECTICUT, Northeast

CTZ002>004

Hartford - Tolland - Windham

06	1000EST 2000EST	0	0	150K	Winter Storm
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A fast moving winter storm passing south of New England brought heavy snow to northern Connecticut, where totals of 6 to 12 inches were common. Dozens of minor accidents were reported as a result of poor visibility and slippery roads, but the overall impact of this late season storm was minimal in Hartford, Tolland, and Windham Counties.

Officially, 8.0 inches of snow was reported at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks. Other snowfall totals as reported by trained spotters included 11 inches in Woodstock; 10 inches in West Hartford and Thompson; 9 inches in Manchester, Bristol, Glastonbury, Ellington, and Ashford; 8 inches in East Hartford, Granby, and West Stafford; and 7 inches in Canton, Enfield, Unionville, Andover, and Storrs.

MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

MAZ002>003-008>011

Western Franklin - Eastern Franklin - Western Hampshire - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampshire - Eastern Hampden

05	0700EST 1100EST	0	0	Winter Weather/Mix
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Light freezing rain turned roadways into a sheet of ice during the morning rush hour, creating slippery travel conditions in Williamsburg, Goshen, and Cummington which lead to numerous minor accidents. Route 9 in Williamsburg was shut down for about two hours while local and state highway crews worked frantically to make it passable. Nearly one hundred motorists were stranded in the interim. A portion of Route 66 on the line between Westhampton and Northampton was also temporarily closed. No injuries were reported.

MAZ009-011>013-
015>020-022>024

Western Hampden - Eastern Hampden - Southern Worcester - Western Norfolk - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth - Southern Bristol - Barnstable - Dukes - Nantucket

06	1100EST 2000EST	0	0	1.2M	Winter Storm
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A fast moving winter storm passing south of New England brought heavy snow to south central and southeast Massachusetts where totals of 5 to 10 inches were common. The snow began during the late morning hours and ended during the evening, and there were several reports of thunder and lightning that afternoon.

The snow began falling so quickly at the onset that motorists in southeast Massachusetts were caught off guard. This created a mess on area roadways, including a chain-reaction pileup of some one hundred vehicles on the southbound lanes of Interstate 95 in Attleboro. No serious injuries were reported, but hundreds of people were stranded for several hours after authorities shut down a ten mile stretch of I-95 from Attleboro to the Rhode Island border. The treacherous conditions also caused two smaller multi-vehicle accidents in the region - one involving a dozen vehicles on Route 3 in Kingston and the other affecting about twenty vehicles on Route 24 near Interstate 495. Several accidents were also reported on Interstate 495 from Wrentham to Foxboro.

Official snowfall totals from the storm included 9.0 inches at the Blue Hill Observatory in Milton; 7.0 inches at the National Weather Service office in Taunton; 5.8 inches at Logan International Airport in Boston; and 5.0 inches at Worcester Airport.

Other snowfall totals as reported by trained spotters included 12 inches in Brockton; 11 inches in South Weymouth, Plymouth, and Millville; 10 inches in Chatham, Wellfleet, Vineyard Haven, Marshfield, Duxbury, and Randolph; 9 inches in Eastham, Barnstable, Edgartown, Nantucket, New Bedford, Norton, West Plymouth, and Hingham; 8 inches in Provincetown, Sandwich, Wareham, Acushnet, Rehoboth, Foxboro, Walpole, and Douglas; 7 inches in West Tisbury, Somerset, West Bridgewater, Quincy, Norwood, Hopkinton, Hopedale, Webster, Monson, and Longmeadow; and 6 inches in Dedham, Needham, Newton, Holliston, Sutton, Granville, and Wilbraham. Snowfall amounts tapered off to as little as 2 to 4 inches near the New Hampshire border.



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MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

Bristol County

Countywide	29	1700EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1700EST							

Middlesex County

Billerica to Hopkinton	29	1700EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1800EST							

Barnstable County

Countywide	29	1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1600EST							

Dukes County

Countywide	29	1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1600EST							

Essex County

Peabody to Beverly	29	1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1900EST							

Nantucket County

Countywide	29	1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1600EST							

Norfolk County

Countywide	29	1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1800EST							

Plymouth County

Countywide	29	1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	30	1800EST							

Low pressure tracking from the mid Atlantic states to Cape Cod brought heavy rain to much of eastern Massachusetts, where rainfall totals between 2 and 4 inches were common, with the highest amounts on Cape Cod and the Islands. Despite the heavy rainfall, no serious flooding was reported, aside from the usual minor urban and poor drainage flooding.

Some specific rainfall totals as reported by trained spotters included 4.07 inches on Nantucket, 3.90 inches in West Plymouth, 3.80 inches in Chatham, 3.68 inches in Vineyard Haven, 3.50 inches in Somerset, 2.97 inches in Fairhaven, 2.70 inches in Belmont, 2.50 inches in Quincy, and 2.30 inches in Peabody.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

NONE REPORTED.

RHODE ISLAND

RIZ001>007

Northwest Providence - Southeast Providence - Western Kent - Eastern Kent - Bristol - Washington - Newport

06	1100EST			0	0	290K	Winter Storm
	2000EST						

A fast moving winter storm passing south of New England brought heavy snow to Rhode Island, where totals of 6 to 10 inches were common. Although dozens of minor accidents were reported as a result of poor visibility and slippery roads, the overall impact of this late season storm was far less on the Ocean State than to areas in adjacent southeast Massachusetts.

Officially, 5.0 inches of snow was reported at T.F. Green State Airport in Warwick. Other snowfall totals as reported by trained spotters included 9 inches in Cumberland, Portsmouth, and Westerly; 8 inches in Cranston, North Foster, Burrillville, Coventry, West Warwick, and Tiverton; and 7 inches in Johnston, downtown Providence, and North Kingstown



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March 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

RHODE ISLAND

Bristol County

Countywide	29 30	1800EST 1700EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Kent County

Countywide	29 30	1800EST 1700EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Newport County

Countywide	29 30	1800EST 1700EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Providence County

Countywide	29 30	1800EST 1700EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Washington County

Countywide	29 30	1800EST 1700EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Low pressure tracking from the mid Atlantic states to Cape Cod brought heavy rain to Rhode Island, where totals of 2 to 3 inches were common. Despite the heavy rainfall, no serious flooding was reported, aside from the usual minor urban and poor drainage flooding.

The storm total at T.F. Green State Airport in Warwick was 2.08 inches. Other rainfall totals as reported by trained spotters included 2.68 inches in Tiverton, 2.51 inches in Newport, 2.32 inches in downtown Providence, and 2.27 inches in North Kingstown.